

2017.104

This is a diary kept  
by Cullen Ward, brother  
of Phical Munro Ward  
my grandfather and  
sister of your greatgrand-  
mother Clarissa, who  
married Elias Baldrick

Cullen Ward. b. 12/2 1811  
died 2/25/1889. in  
Staten Island N.Y. He  
was unmarried

Sydney Ward has asked  
to see this book. Keep it  
until I come to Perry in  
the summer. when

Old Dartmouth  
Historical Society



GIFT OF  
Mrs + Mr.  
Douglas Smith

2017.104 NBW1365



Miss Mary G. Ward

*Thos. Jones*

Old Dartmouth  
Historical Society



GIFT OF  
Mrs + Mr.  
Douglas Smith

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pa. 77<sup>c</sup>

Ellen Ward's journal  
belongs to Mary G. Ward.  
She has promised that  
it will be sent later  
by her cousin Frank Curtis  
to her cousins.

Anna and Helen Ward  
Box 187, Chester, Va.

1/10/01





1833

At Glenn Montgomery County, where I  
tarried over the Sabbath and attended  
Church. I had forgotten to mention  
that Mr. Sprague pastored with  
me at Utica on the 7 of April.  
He said he was going to Little Falls  
and should stop there until I arrived  
in that place. He was to write me  
on arriving there, and place a line  
in the Post Office at the Falls, that  
I might be enabled to find <sup>him</sup> without difficulty  
but I rec<sup>d</sup> no line from him. Nor found  
any in the Office at the Falls. This  
was a great disappointment to me for he  
left me his Creditor to the amount of  
\$42.00. When I left Perry Center  
He was my companion, and we mutually  
agreed to bear each others Company as  
long as life continued. I cast no reflections  
upon his conduct for I know not what  
his Motive was in leaving me in this manner



1833

Monday morning April 22 1833

I left Glen on the Erie Canal and arrived at Schenectady Tuesday evening and the next morning took a seat in a Rail Road Car and in 40 minutes found myself in Albany. Of all means of conveyance that I ever tried this has the preeminence for speed To be conveyed over a distance of 16 Miles in the short space of 40 Minutes, 10 Minutes Included for stoppage, is great travelling to say No More, It is the most pleasant of all kinds of Land conveyance, for there is no jolting Nor jouncing. It is all even, straight forward Movement.

Thursday After Noon April 25 - 1833  
I commenced laboring for a Mr. Biggam a Contractor for removing the Clay Banks at the South end of the City I had but one solitary Shad scale when I commenced with him —



While in Utica I visited the  
 Museum and other places of Public  
 Resort. I saw many things calculated  
 to please and instruct. I received  
 and wrote many letters the Postages  
 amounting to \$1.50. The last letter  
 which I wrote to my Brothers I told  
 them it would be the last. I rec<sup>d</sup> two  
 from them since urging me to write  
 but I have not nor shall I —

I never have once wished to return  
 or to see any of my acquaintances  
 which is something singular considering  
 my situation being alone with neither  
 friends nor relatives. There is  
 one however which I would like  
 to see if she could be placed here  
 but I would not wish to return yet to  
 see her these 3 years. Perhaps  
 I may never return. I shall never  
 return until I am in good circumstances

Since I have been in Albany  
 I have visited the Museum  
 where I witnessed the Wonderful  
 performances of the Ventriloquist who  
 Imitated the noise made by the  
 attention of the saw, and that of a dog  
 barking. He also had a little Image  
 which he held in his Lap that appeared  
 to talk and hold conversation with him  
 He would appear to hold conversation  
 with 2 Persons. one in an upper room  
 and the other in a lower Room  
 and they would appear to change from that  
 to the Chimney and, go up and down that  
 I attended the Theatre one evening  
 This is the first time I ever visited a  
 Theatre and I think it - Maybe  
 the Last I would not be certain however  
 for a Man can not determine what  
 He will Do. I think it would be  
 best not to attend again —



May 8-1833 I have  
 been in Albany 14 Days 13 of them  
 I have labored for the before mentioned  
 Biggam. When I first petitioned him for  
 employ he would give me only \$10.00  
 per Month This was too little but necessity  
 compelled me to labor for him. I thought  
 I should stop with him only long enough  
 to get cash to carry me to New York  
 where I intended to ship myself for  
 Europe, or South America. I had  
 not stopped but 3 or 4 Days when he offered  
 me made me overseer of his Men and  
 Book-keeper. Wages higher and situation good  
 I have not certainly Determined  
 to stop with him, but he wants to retain me  
 2 or 3 Years! We should agree well  
 May 15 I have concluded to leave Albany  
 this Evening or tomorrow Morning. I can  
 never live with any degree of comfort, for  
 the water which I have to drink is so

1838

Impure that it operates as a Cathartic  
upon Me. I am therefore obliged to abstain  
entirely from the use of it. This is foregoing  
too much for a "Cold Water Man". The North  
River is swollen so as to reach the second  
street running parallel with it. I have  
been twice to Day vainly endeavoring to  
get to the Steam Boat Landing. In consequence  
of the high water the Boat did not make  
her regular trip to Day. Much Damage  
has been sustained by the lumber men  
and by those living near the River. Large  
numbers of Casks have floated down in the  
course of the night filled <sup>with</sup> Sugar, Whiskey  
and other articles. It would be well if  
all the Alcohol in the State could  
~~be~~ be floating down this River. Mixed  
with the water thereby saving an incalcu-  
lable expense of Life and property —  
Thousands of dollars worth of property in the Western  
port instances for New York arrived.



On O. Tuesday Evening at half past  
 2 o'clock I have taken lodgings at No. 1 Water  
 Street, corner of Whitehall & Water streets —  
 The situation is as pleasant as any in the City, being  
 opposite the Battery, which is changed with  
 the sun Morning and Evening. This day I have  
 spent in viewing the town although I have not  
 seen one quarter of it. Nor could I if I should stay  
 here a week. Three Years last Sept. I was  
 in this place, but I have not the most distant  
 recollection of any part of it excepting  
 Castle-Garden. I have not yet given up the  
 idea of going to Sea. I made application this  
 Morning for a License, or Sloop, or passage  
 as a greenhouse but could not obtain a  
 situation as such. I must have some employment  
 or share for weekly stipend of money I  
 am, and in such a place as this a man  
 without Money can not live a great while  
 however I try to keep my spirits up without "giving  
 spirits down" as the saying is —

1833

Saturday Morning I again sat down to write in  
pursuit of pleasure and occupation, but found  
but little of the former and none of the latter.  
Daily am convinced that I never shall  
be enabled until I am possessed of money  
to this extent, viz. to enable me to purchase  
a small farm where I may have a home  
and be able to support myself and a wife  
should I be so fortunate as to obtain one.  
But how long it will be ere I shall attain  
such a situation I know not perhaps never.

Thursday May 20. I was starting for  
a 3<sup>d</sup> office of the Rail Road line for  
Thundersbay, it being the 1<sup>st</sup> of June  
that I would ride to New Brunswick  
as the fare was only 12 p cents and  
I had in hand the \$20.00 and  
arrived at New Brunswick at 5 o'clock  
in the afternoon. Finding I was from  
the time we started. I was after  
I had I had no interest in the trip.



The Bureau concerning my employment wages  
 I have made a statement stopping through  
 the summer if my health had permitted  
 but I was forced to leave the place in  
 10 days from the time I came there —  
 My situation was as pleasant as could  
 be but the water is so impregnated  
 with Copperas as to render it wholly  
 unfit for use. All that I can say of  
 the Society is that it produces the  
 same results. Females of any country  
 that come here in. I have 1<sup>st</sup> seen none  
 in New York City with but 15 Cents  
 and in the kind of business which is  
 rather a hard case I think —  
 But I must close my appointed time  
 I am yours but how and where I know  
 not. It is now 4 Months  
 since I left New York and instead of  
 going you have lost it without  
 hope of recovering —

1800

Shore 2<sup>d</sup> to enquire to attend Blasch  
I regret to say that I have not at-  
tended Church since I left Salem  
This is owing to a number of all instructions  
and advice which I have received  
I feel ashamed of my conduct in the  
particular. But the apology I offer to  
Conscience is that I am a stranger and  
know not how to get a seat in the Church.  
And that it will be as well to stay at  
home and read the Bible which I  
do every Sabbath

Since 1<sup>st</sup> of January since February 11 3.85.00  
Making with the help by a friend Henry five  
Dollars and left home with the help  
4 months time and the money of others  
so that I may safely say that I am  
now poorer and twenty Dollars poorer  
than when I left home!!!

Now Encouragement this for the reason  
that I am poorer. But I am rich in the  
love of God



1833

June 5<sup>th</sup> As I was passing one of the Shipping Officers I was hailed by a young Man and asked if I would like to cast a venture in the Whaling - business. After a moments Consideration I replied in the affirmative. Articles were immediately signed Consigning Me to Isaac Austin, Nantucket, for which Place I sailed on the next Morning, and arrived there Sabbath Morning at 6 o'clock. Myself and another young Man a resident of New-York City who came in the same Vessel were Lodged in the house of a Mr Thompson, where we tarried until the next-Morning, when <sup>we</sup> found better accommodations with Mr. Dennison. After making a few inquiries respecting Whaling Vessels, which had the best Masters &c, we concluded to embark in the Ship John Adams but were told by Mr Austin that we

1833

Wre under his Control, and that we  
Must Go in the Ship Constitution After  
farther inquiry we ascertained that  
the said Austin had in addition to \$5.00  
for our Passage, charged us \$6.00  
for advance which he said had been  
Paid us at New York. This raised the  
spirit in us for we had not received  
a Cent in advance. We immediately  
hastened to a Magistrate and made  
Oath to the same. This closed our affairs  
with Isaac Austin. We then shipped  
in the John Adams, she is not  
ready to sail as yet, and I shall have  
opportunity to earn \$1.25 every Day which  
I may feel disposed to Labor —

Nantucket is a filthy Town of about  
7000 Inhabitants. The houses are all  
built of wood, with the exception of  
3. The streets are narrow and unpaved.  
The Inhabitants support themselves by whaling.



And its Consequent Trade, and Labor  
such as ship building Blacksmithing &c.  
But why the Bann Islands of Nantucket  
should be selected for this business is a  
Mystery that I am not able to solve  
as there is no trees growing on the Island  
nor ever has been since its first  
Discovery, and Ships are under the  
necessity of unloading, and Dismantling  
before they can enter the Port, on  
account of a bar, or shallow water  
Friday I spent in walking about the  
Town Thursday and Saturday Labored  
for \$1,50 per Day Sabbath Day June 16

Attended Church in Nantucket  
Heard 2 very good Discourses from  
John 5-41-4. inclusive and Psalms 8-11  
I am forced to confess, and admit that  
I enjoyed myself better than at other  
Sabbaths while at home. I say home  
for the stopping Place is the traveller's home

1833

It pains Me when I think of My  
Brothers and Sisters enjoying the  
blessings and privileges of the Gospel  
while I am Deprived of them. There  
is Nothing better calculated to prevent  
Men from running into wicked  
Practices than a regular attendance  
upon the stated Ministrations of  
the Gospel, for I have Notice  
that if Men do not go to Church  
they go somewhere. They either Visit  
or receive Visitors, which is productive  
of Evil consequences. I am resolved  
when it is in My Power to attend  
Church, and when it is not to  
read My Bible. How many times  
I have had reason to be thankful  
that I had such an education as  
as I have, for I am possessed of such  
a fiery, headstrong Temper, that had  
I not been reared in the best of



1832

Families I should in all probability have  
ended My Days upon a Gallows  
long before this. The Precepts that  
I received from My Brother Monroe  
have sunk deeper into My bosom than  
all that I have received from the  
other Members of the family. And do  
I treat that brother as I should? Is he  
anxious to hear from Me? I know  
whether I am Dead or alive? Sick  
or in health? Most certainly he  
is. But the reason why I do  
not write to him is, that I have  
been unfortunate in My speculations  
and am determined to retrieve My  
losses before I acquaint him of My  
situation. And should he know  
where I am he would have more  
bitter feeling than he has now  
so I reason but whether I am correct  
or not the reader must judge.

1883

Should he know that I intended  
going to Sea he would give me up  
for lost, and I should not be  
able to write to the contrary  
until I returned which would  
be from 8 months to 3 —

June 17-1883 Do<sup>2<sup>nd</sup></sup> Commences the  
Great Wautukel festival, the  
Sheep shearing season which continues  
2 Days when about 20,000 sheep  
are shorn of their fleecy honors  
This is all the holiday which the  
Inhabitants of this Island keep  
The Shearing Ground is located  
at the distance of 1 1/2 Miles  
from the southern extremity of  
the Town where all the sheep  
are collected, and each respective  
owner has a pen or enclosure of  
his own, connected, and leading  
into the general Yard the



1833

Ships are then divided to each  
his Number. Distant from the pen  
about 80 Rods 8 or 10 Large tents  
are erected where all kinds of  
food and Liquors are sold to  
the Visitors who resort hither in  
great Multitudes. Among the  
Number You will find the most  
respectable Females of the place  
attended by their husbands or  
Brans. You will also behold the  
Dunkard and the Prostitute there  
Singular as it May appear to the  
stranger Large Numbers from  
New Bedford come to witness this  
foolish Ceremony. Business of all  
kinds is suspended for 2 Days just  
for the sake of pursuing this  
abominable Practice. Every sailor  
in Nantucket must attend and  
pay a \$10.00 or \$15.00 if he is so.

1893

Unfortunate as to have it in his  
Possession. Hundreds of Dollars are  
worse than thrown away by these  
lings who Make their belly  
their god. June 18 This Day closes  
the shraing. I can compare it  
to nothing but the Close of a  
Regimental Training in  
York State. Drunkenness,  
profane swearing, and fighting  
concluded the scene. And  
still this evil Custom must be  
sustained by the good People of the  
State of Massachusetts, simply because  
their Fathers in Days of old were  
once from Accident reduced to this  
Mode of Collecting, and shraing  
their Sheep. Foolish Customs must be  
perpetrated, while those that are  
beneficial are soon Abolished  
such is Weak, and Wayward Man



1833

June 17 People resume their business  
and the Town again presents a lively aspect  
but for the last 2 Days, had the Cholera  
visited the place it would not have been  
more lonely, as all the Inhabitants were  
on the shreaving Ground. June 20.  
I was employed by the owners of the  
Ship Lydia to assist in Discharging  
her Cargo of oil. I was obliged to  
work on the sabbath which I would  
not have done, could I have refrained  
from it. The Ship lay over the bar  
and in the opinion of the owners  
it became necessary to unload her  
on the sabbath I was in the ship  
and obliged to work because I had  
agreed to help Discharge her however I  
did not work but half of the Day  
and in consequence of it had to  
leave the ship and lose a part of  
my wages which I had rather so than to  
work on the sabbath

1883

It has been argued that it is necessary to work on the Sabbath when business presses but I am of a different opinion We had been delayed by the roughness of the weather as the Lighters could not come out to fill and Sabbath Day being fair a Lighter came and she must be filled as the Griv was very impatient to get ashore, having been out for two years and a half.

Sabbath June 30 Did not attend Church on account of my appearance being where I could not come at it. 29 of June and 1 of July labored on the Ship John Adams fitting her for sea I suppose she will sail about the 8. of July, which is not as soon by 3 weeks as the owners told us when we shipped, however this is of a piece with all other measures.



In Nantucket. Every Man on the Island calculates to Lie, Chrat, and steal to the extent of his abilities in order to overreach his Neighbor and if he can not effect his purpose by these means he will hardly hesitate to plunge the Pointed Steel to your Heart. I would be understood when I say every Man I mean all those who are Directly, and immediately interested in the Whaling Business. It is the most complete Shaving-Machine that was ever formed. The Owners of Ships employ Men in Boston, New York and Albany, to furnish them with a certain number of Men to go in their Ships for which they pay them so much. In order to obtain these Men these Agents stick at so unwarrantable Means to Draw them in to

1833

Their Art In the first place they are told a very plausible story of the proceeds of a Voyage, which is exaggerated almost beyond belief They represent to them that at the least calculation they will have at the termination of a Cape Horn voyage one thousand dollars!! - This fills the eye of a "Green Horn" at once. What! to begin only 3 years and return with so much Money. This must be good business. And to add to the Allurement they are immediately furnished with 5 or 10 Dollars, and told when they get to Nantucket they can have fifty or a hundred more, this is sufficient. They readily swallow the bait, hook line and pole, and start for Nantucket as their passage is paid, and they have no trouble but to step in to a packet -



1833

But the Moment they arrive in  
Nantucket their golden Dreams  
vanish like the Promises of their  
Procureurs. They are immediately told  
that they are obliged to go to  
work on the ship which they are  
to sail in for, Nothing, and pay their  
board bills, which will be deduct-  
ed from the proceeds of the Voyage.  
This creates uneasiness at once, and  
many of the Most active, persevering,  
and reckless, abscond, after obtaining  
as much from their employers as  
would Amount to fifty Dollars -  
In order to prevent Men from  
Deserting in this Manner they  
employ Watchmen paying them one  
Dollar for each Night's watching  
which is charged to those  
who are so unfortunate as to  
sail in their Ships —

1833 Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup> I left the  
wharf in the Ship John Adams. She  
came to Anchor Six Miles from the  
Town where she is to take in her  
supply of Provisions for the Voyage.  
Sabbath July 14<sup>th</sup> Laborer hard all  
the Day, in filling the ship —  
Monday July 22 Left from the Bar, and  
by the next Morning, found ourselves  
out of sight of Land. This created  
peculiar sensations in My breast;  
for the first time in My whole  
Life to witness such a spectacle  
caused Many Curious reflections to  
arise To behold as far as the eye can  
reach Naught but one vast sheet of  
Water for a Moment fills the Mine  
with Dread, but We soon become habit-  
uated to the sight. And then to behold  
the sun rising as it were from out  
the Water, and tinging it with a



1883

Golden hue. presents a beautiful spectacle  
to One who has never before witnessed it

Wednesday Aug 7 Descrie the Island  
of Flores and Carvo Aug 9 Landed  
on the Island of Fial. I have seen  
Many things since I left the shores  
of Antucler Calculated to please  
one who never traversed the briny  
Ocean before. It is extremely pleasant  
to ascend the top Gallant Mast in the  
Morning and look Down in to the  
Water and there behold the various  
Multitudes of Flying-fish, Portuguese  
Man of War. Water Snakes Bright Eyes  
and Numerous others of A Larger size  
of which the Ocean swarms —

The flying fish are pursued by the Dolp-  
:hin who feeds upon them. the Moment  
the flying fish sees his Enemy he  
springs from the water and flies  
until his wings Dry. then he is forced

1833

To alight and rest them again  
then he can continue his course out  
of the Water. But the Dolphin which  
is the fastest swimming fish that  
inhabits the Water, swims just under  
him and seizes him the moment  
he touches the Water —

The Portuguese Man of War is a  
very Curious fish. He is  
called a Man of War from his  
resemblance to a Ship. In a fair  
wind he will hoist his Sails  
and scud through the water  
in fine style. Other fish I shall  
not attempt to Describe at present  
Friday Aug. 16. We are in the Latitude  
of  $23^{\circ} 28'$  Just under the Tropic  
of Cancer where the sun is vertical  
once a Year. A sensible Difference  
in the temperature of the Air  
Even in this Latitude —



1833

Tuesday Aug. 28 Spoke the Ship  
Wind-Scalis of Walkington  
106 Days from Calcutta and  
12 Days from St. Helena  
September 3<sup>d</sup> We are this Day at  
twelve o'clock exactly under the  
Equator, a place where one Year  
ago I did not even dream of  
visiting, but such is the unevenness  
of My temper that I am not con-  
-tented to remain long in one  
station. Should Life be spared I  
intend to settle Myself in the course  
of 4 or 5 Years. The western part  
of the State of New-York I have  
selected as My future Residence  
I must here say that a sailors Life  
is one of great Care and anxiety He is  
expecting a storm to overtake him and  
dismast his Vessel. or he is in  
Danger of running upon rocks or shoals

1833

And certainly there is but  
Little Calculation to please him  
while traversing this trackless waste.  
Nought meets the eye, Day after Day,  
and week after week but the same  
boundless sheet of Salt Water.  
One Day in the Morning he will  
behold the Sun rising in all his  
Glory. Not a Cloud to disfigure the  
fair face of the sky. and in the  
short space of an hour the scene will  
be changed. The sky is suddenly over-  
cast with Clouds. The rain descends  
in torrents accompanied with Lightn-  
ing and thunder that seems to  
shake the Earth to its Centre -  
In the mean time the Wind drives  
his ship through the waves almost  
with the velocity of Lightning.  
It is then that the sailor sees  
trouble that a Landman knows

1833

Nothing of. To go aloft and furl his  
sails when the ship is heaving from  
side <sup>to side</sup> is no Delightful task But it must  
be done, for the safety of the ship requires  
it. No time is to be Lost in a gale of  
Wind. Officers are ever on the Look  
out for You, and if You display the  
least unwillingness to hand sails  
You immediately Meet with a  
ropes end or some Corporal punis-  
hment, which they do not hesitate  
to inflict. We have extraordinary good  
officers excepting the Chief Mate,  
who is abhorred by all the Crew.  
He is ever bawling, and scolding to the  
Men when there is no necessity for it.  
However, We Manage to enjoy ourselves  
very well as we Care but Little for  
him, or his voice.

Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> Spoke the Whale Ship  
Hudson of Nag-Harbour



1833

This is a Large 4 Boat Ship  
bound for the Islands of Tristan's  
Acunha and its Vicinity. Lat.  $29^{\circ} 41'$  South  
Lon.  $18^{\circ} 20'$  West. This was a pleasant  
sight to one who has been confined  
for 2 Months in a floating Prison  
without beholding a face save those  
of the ships crew since we left the  
Azores. Sabbath Sept 22 Experiencia  
a gale of Wind. We Lay to under  
Close Reefed Top Sails and stay sails  
During the greater part of the Day  
At six o'clock the wind abated  
and we shook out the reefs and  
steered away for Tristan's D Acunha  
Thursday Sept 24 Made the Islands of Inac-  
cepible, Nightingale, and Tristan's D. Acunha  
The Weather being foggy. and we not  
passing very near them. Could not  
have a Distinct view of them. We  
are now as far south as we

1838

Shall probably go, as our Cruising  
ground Lies North East of this place  
These Islands are in the latitude of  
 $87^{\circ} 17'$  South and  $114^{\circ} 48'$  West Longitude  
I am almost as far South of the  
Equator now, as I was North of it  
while at home. The weather is much  
the same as our March, in fact  
it is the same Month as March  
Saturday Sept. 28 spoke the Whale Ship  
Commodore Perry of New London  
with four Whales. 2 Sperm and 2  
Right. She saw a number of Whales  
Thursday. Thus it appears that other  
ships are more fortunate than  
we are since we have not even  
seen a Right Whale on our  
passage, but our Captain does not  
feel at all alarmed about the  
voyage for he did not expect to get  
a Whale before the middle of October

1833

Oh! how welcome would the sight  
of My home be. Could I but behold  
it now, as it was when I left it.  
It is now that I realize, and prize  
the sweets of society. This is all the  
objection that I have to a Mariners  
Life. He is forced to forego all the  
pleasures of a society in circle  
with friends who are Dear to him.  
His Company in the ship is gene-  
rally of the roughest sort. Those  
who are thoughtless and reckless of  
their condition. Many who follow  
the Ocean have been seduced by Mis-  
fortune to the lowest state of Mental  
Dijection and they resort to the  
Sea as a Cure for their troubled  
Minds. These are the most hard-  
ened, abandoned Mortals that you  
often find. There are some however  
in almost every ship who are good Men



1833

Sept. 28. We have been at sea 68 Days  
This time has passed more swiftly  
than ever I could have expected  
It has not appeared longer than  
our Month on Land. However I  
often think of My friends which  
causes many painful reflections to arise  
in My Mind. In the first place I con-  
sider that I have done wrong in not  
writing to them since I left Utica  
I am well aware that their thoughts  
often rest upon Me. How Delighted  
they would be to hear from Me and  
know that I was in good health. Were  
I situated so that I could write  
them I would. but I cannot these  
9. or perhaps 18 Months. I think it would  
be much more pleasant to be steering  
a Plough than to be steering this  
Bloody old Ship. But I must con-  
tent myself where I am for a time

1883

Monday September 30 Have  
been under short sail these 3  
Days and most of the time the  
Ship has been "Laid to" as the  
sailors term it. This Morning abo-  
ut 2 o'clock the wind raised  
and it has blowed a strong gale  
all Day, but as Our Vessel is  
a good Sea-Boat she ships but  
little water and consequently  
we feel very comfortable in her  
Caught an Albatross this Morning  
the back of which I have preserv-  
ed. We also caught 2 Speckled  
Hagfish. Saw a Penguin off Our  
Lee Quarter. & other birds in abundance.  
October 10 We are now on Our Whaling  
Ground. Latitude  $34^{\circ}$  South Lon-  
 $106^{\circ}$  East We have as yet seen no  
Right Whales as the season is  
not far enough advanced —

1883

The Capt. and Officers begin to entertain fearful apprehensions respecting the Voyage. although this same ship did not get a Whale the last season until the 17<sup>th</sup> of this Month Saturday October 12 We Lowered our Boats and killed a Right Whale but they sunk before we could get them to the ship. Sabbath Oct. 13 Fastened to a Large Sperm Whale and he went off with 3 Irons and one Line. Afternoon We had the good fortune to bring a Right Whale along side and we cut him in the next Morning. I shall hereafter explain these Whaling terms so as to be understood. October 15 In the Morning We Lowered and fastened to a Large Right Whale and she stowed the Larboard Boat. In the Afternoon We killed a Right Whale and cut him in



1833

I will now attempt to describe  
the Manner in which Whales are  
killed, and how the oil is  
extracted from the Blubber.  
To begin the subject. Men are station-  
ed in the Top Gallant Cross-trees  
to Look out for Whales. The Moment  
a Spout is seen, the Men aloft  
cry out "There she Blows". The Capt.  
immediately asks "Where away".  
He is then told the place, and distan-  
ce, and if the Capt. considers it a  
favorable opportunity he lowers his  
Boats for them. The Boats are built  
extremely Light, and strong. They  
are 25 feet Long and 6 feet in width  
at widest, propelled with 5 oars, capab-  
le of being driven at the rate of 8  
Miles in an hour. In each Boat is  
placed the craft which consist of  
harpoons, Lances, spades, hatchets, knives

&c and a Line 150, or 200. fathoms  
 in Length, which is Made fast to  
 the harpoon. When the Boats get  
 near enough to the Whale, the  
 Harpooner peaks his Car, seizes his  
 harpoon and Darts it in to the Whale  
 and the other Carman "Storn Al" "  
 that is, Move the Boat backwards  
 for a short Distance, While the Whale  
 flounders from the agony of the wound.  
 All hands then seize the Line and haul  
 the Boat up to the Whale, if he Does  
 not run too fast, the Lancer then  
 thrusts his Lance into his Side, until  
 he spouts White blood, and Dirs  
 A Line is then attached to him  
 and he is towed to the Ship, where  
 he is fastened by a halter thrown  
 around his flukes. The Blubber  
 is then stripped off by Means of  
 Large Hooks

1833

The Blubber is then Minced with a Large Knife, then put in Large Pots and tried until the oil is out of it. This Description of taking a Whale is that of one taken without Much effort. Not unfrequently When a Whale is struck she runs to Windward for 3. or 4 Miles. towing the Boat after her almost with the Velocity of Lightning. You would scarcely believe with what swiftness the Boat Moves through the Water when the Sea is rough the Boat is often buried in the waves. If you open your eyes you cannot see for they are instantly filled with salt Water. I recollect of being fast to one Whale that run us to Windward about 8 Miles. The sea was quite rough and for about



1833

half of the way we could neither  
see the Whale, Boat, nor anything  
else. Much of the way the Boat  
was actually lower than the surface  
of the water by some 18. or 20 inches.

This was owing to the Velocity of  
the Boat. You May think this a  
hard story, but I can tell you a  
harder one. Imagine to Yourself,  
a Fish, or a Monster 70. or 80 feet  
in Length. Max with pain from the  
wounds which he has received, throw-  
ing himself out of the water. Contra-  
cting and expanding his Flukes with a  
force sufficient to stove a ship. I say im-  
agine Yourself in a Light Boat—  
in the vast ocean near such an  
animal as this. If you can manage  
to get Your Boat out of his way then  
you are safe. if not the scene  
is frightful beyond Description

1833

Min. Oars, and broken pieces of  
Boats are scattered in every direction.  
Much depends upon the Manner  
in which the whale strikes the  
Boat, for escaping with Life. If the  
Boat receives a downward stroke  
there is but little chance of Life.  
but if the Whale strikes the Boat  
from underneath. You may be  
saved, after being thrown some 15.  
or 20 feet in the air. In such a  
case nothing is left for you, but to  
grasp an oar, or broken piece of  
Boat, and keep Yourself from drown-  
ing until the nearest Boat comes to  
your relief. Twice I have been in a  
Boat that was broken in twain  
by a blow from the flukes. The first  
time another Boat came to our  
assistance before the larger part of  
the Boat to which we clung was

1833

The second instance of this kind  
the remaining part of the Boat upset  
before we had relief. Two of the Boats  
crew could not swim. I was one of  
them. When the Boat overturned  
I went Down under it. I thought,  
(and I believe Men can think More in  
one Minute under such circumstances  
than they can in 20, when they are  
free from danger) while I was sinking  
that I should rise No More. The thoughts  
of home, Friends, and Death. crowded  
My Mind at once, and helped Me to  
rise. When I reached the surface of  
the Water I caught the Mate by the  
Leg, and giving a spring at the same  
time I reached the wreck to which I  
clung until taken off by another Boat  
We were all saved, and returned to  
the Ship with thankful hearts  
I think a further Description unnecessary



1853

A Whales Spout May be seen in a clear calm Day, from 4 to 6 Miles <sup>ie.</sup> from a Ships "Top Gallant Mast"

The general height of a spout is about 6 or 8 feet. They will sometimes <sup>throw</sup> the spray to the height of 12 or 15 feet. They present a very pretty appearance while moving slowly in the water. The upper part of a Right Whales head is covered with a kind of shell fish, called Barnacles. The upper Jaw contains about 400 flaps of Bone from one foot to 8 feet in Length. There are no teeth, as their food is a soft substance that floats upon the water. The Spermaceti Whale is different, he has regular teeth, and feeds upon a sort of fish called squid. The Blubber from a Whale will make from 40. to 120 barrels of oil.

1833

I would be understood that such  
Whales as inhabit the South Atlantic  
Ocean are of this size. There are  
some on the coast of Greenland  
that will make 300 barrels of Oil.  
I will now try give you some idea  
of a Whale Ship, and the Crew, while  
they are "trying" out Oil. In the first  
place the Decks, of the ship are so com-  
pletely beam-reefed with the "Cumra"  
fat, that it is next to impossible to  
to keep on ones feet. I have often been  
constrained to Lunge to see some of  
My Mates, and even myself, when  
endeavoring to move a cask, or  
haul a rope, as the ship rolls a few  
feet would slide from under us  
and away we would go to leeward.  
Praying as we went that We might  
never see another Whale so long  
as we should live —



Let a stranger to this business, a  
 Landsman Enter our Fore-castle,  
 or Stowage when the Watch is  
 called at Midnight. he would  
 Witness such a scene as might gra-  
 tify the curiosity of a King. Cover-  
 ed with oil from the crown of our  
 heads to the soles of our feet, and  
 utterly unable to open our eyes for  
 a long time from excessive fatigue  
 and loss of sleep. He present a most  
 pitiful appearance. And then to  
 hear the Prayers: but they are  
 such Prayers as I suppose are  
 an abomination to the Lord  
 The business of Whaling altogether  
 is the best calculated to ruin a  
 Man's Constitution of any that is  
 followed. And yet there are  
 many that will follow it until  
 Death, which comes in early Life



1833

For My own choicer, I would sooner be incarcerated in a Dungeon than to make another voyage. I shall strike from the list of the years of My existence the one in which this Voyage is made and consider Myself no older when I return to Nantucket than when I left it —

But in reality, I shall be 10 years older than when I sailed. I shall not Last as Long by 10 Years as I should if I had not entered into this cur-sea business. One Night with "Job" of old open his mouth and curse his Day. Cursed be the Man that first persuaded Me to ship, and Cursed be the Sloop that brought Me to Nantucket and Cursed be the Ship Owners

1883

and all those either Directly or  
indirectly interested in this business  
And above and More than All  
thier Curse be the enchanted  
Island. May it sink with all  
the sins, and Abominations, and  
oil that is upon it: to the  
remotest corner of Perdition  
there to consume by a slow,  
but a process equally sure, that it might  
the longer torment these cursed  
traffickers in human Misery.  
Perhaps this is a little too severe, but  
I consider the business of enticing  
Men to go on a Whaling Voyage worse  
than that of kidnapping the Natives  
of Africa and selling them to the  
highest bidder. Look for a Moment  
at the Crew of this ship. When we  
signed the articles that bind us  
to obey our officers we were

Expressly told that the Ship should return in the course of 8, or 10 Months whether successful or unsuccessful. We accordingly prepared clothing for only this term of time. But Mark the Change!

The Ship is but partly filled with oil, and We are told that she shall not return under 20 Months! —

And to brighten our Misery We are allowed but little to eat —

Many times after Measuring the South Atlantic Ocean with our oars, and nearly exhausted with the consequent fatigue, we have been compelled to "turn in" to our hammocks, with no supper but a Pot of Cola Water, and a cake of hard Bread —

Oh! Plenty — Oh! sound once familiar to my ears, but now



1833

Forgotten. Even the very Name  
is erased from My Memory.  
Should I be so fortunate as  
to survive the Disasters of  
this Voyage I think I shall be  
able to justly estimate the blessings  
which I once slighted —  
This Day. December 2<sup>d</sup> I am  
22 Years old. What a Contrast  
between this and My Last Birth  
Day! Instead of enjoying the Ple-  
asures arising from a social inter-  
-course with My friends and  
relatives. I am forced to hold  
converse with My own thoughts.  
Perched some 90. or 100 feet above  
the water, to watch the sport of  
these great Fish. one of which  
I could wish. Might like the  
one we read of. swallow Me and  
Tomit Me upon the Dry Land

1833

I think I could sleep without  
the shelter of a gourd, if I were  
placed on the solid Ground  
once more. Let every Young  
Man who wishes to enter into  
this business "Look before he Leaps"  
If he is engaged in any Lawful  
business on the Land, Let him not  
forsake it; If he has none, Let him  
Look around and find some.  
If he can find none; Let him  
throw himself upon the Charity  
of those around him! Yes! Let  
him beg his bread from Door to Door  
rather than enter into this soul  
tormenting business. If he thinks  
to meet with Merciful Men  
on Board of a Whale Ship, he  
will soon learn his mistake.  
If a Man is sick, these  
hell hounds will task him.

1833

Extraordinary. An Officer of a  
Whale Ship is in Respect Merry  
if he sees a Man at ease, until  
he can invent some measure  
to torment, and distress him -  
When all hands are Miserable  
then he is in the "height of  
his Glory". If a Captain of a  
Whale Ship could obtain a  
Whale for the life of a Man  
he would be willing to Exchange  
his crew for Whales, provided he  
could navigate his ship without  
them. I think I have said  
enough to convince any Man  
of sense that Whaling is not a  
Pleasant business.

It May be a profitable business to  
one that can weather the  
storm, but to a greenhorn  
it involves him Drowning Debt



January 1-1834. Here commences a New Year on the South-Atlantic Ocean. Latitude  $44^{\circ}$  South Lon.  $12^{\circ}$  West. One Year since I was in Latitude  $44^{\circ}$  North not on the briny Ocean, but upon the solid Ground. Among Christians and Enlightened Inhabitants, where the sound of the "Church going Bell" is heard by thousands of Pious Worshipers. Yes! And I was in a Land of Liberty too; where one could express his sentiments, and Pursue his Daily Avocation without control. Could I be placed there now I think Nought could induce me to again leave the once happy home of my Youth. But No! the Evil Genius that has attended me for the last three years cannot relinquish his grasp as yet

1834

Jan'y 25 Twelve Months  
to Day since I Departed from  
My good Old Home. From that  
Day May I Date My misery  
Advised and entreated in the  
most compasionate terms not  
to leave. I tore Myself from My  
friends. The big tear stole silently  
down our cheeks as we exchan-  
ged the scarcely audible "Adieu"  
and I stepped into the carriage  
with a heart too full for utterance.  
Then why should I have left?  
This is a question that I am  
unable to answer. I had for a  
long time felt an irresistable incli-  
nation to see foreign Countries  
Now this Desire had become  
so strong that it must be  
gratified. This is the only apology  
that can be offered —

1834

February 22<sup>d</sup> We left the  
from Latitude of  $44^{\circ}$ . and on  
the 6<sup>th</sup> of March We found our-  
selves at the Island of Tristan -  
D'Aunha. Our Capt. Made  
a stop of 3 Days at this Island  
for the purpose of obtaining fresh  
food for the Crew as many of them  
was somewhat Disposed to the  
Scurvy. This Island has <sup>the</sup> appearance  
of a huge Mass of barren rocks  
however there is a small  
English settlement on the  
North side of the Island  
It produces no grain, but Potatoes  
are raised in abundance  
They Dispose of these to Whale  
Ships which touch here on  
their Passage home. Some  
Merchant Ships also  
stop at this Island



1834

April 6. Another month has been added to the Many which help to bring us to the termination of this heart-sickening Voyage. For Men in all the bloom and vigor of Youth, to be forced to spend the best of their Days in such a Manner as this, is intolerable. Day after day and week after week nothing is presented to our longing Eyes. Save the same old sky, and sea. No sound is heard but the sound of our own Voices, and the Long. Deep Eternal Groan of the Mighty Ocean. To hear the Muttering thunder roll through the skies would awe us into more agreeable sensations, than those which now fill our Minds. but this We have not heard in 7 Months

1834

May 15<sup>th</sup> We are now in the  
Latitude of 15° South and Longitude  
of 02° East. We lowered our Boats  
and fastened to a Large "Sperm"  
Whale, which went off with our  
Line and part of another -  
This caused very unpleasant  
sensations to arise, for most  
probable if We had been fortunate  
enough to have taken him, We  
should have gone home this  
season. But Our Captain now  
declares that the ship shall  
stay until every Cask is full.  
It is now the blooming month  
of May. Oh! I wish, but vainly  
wish that I were now walking  
in the sweet scented fields  
where every prospect is calculated  
to please the Mind of Man.  
But trees and flowers bloom in vain  
for me.

1837.

How Envious is the lot of  
him who, <sup>when</sup> weary, can retire to  
rest at pleasure, and in the  
Morning be awakened by the  
sweet Music of innumerable  
feathered songsters, that inhabit  
the shady grove, or wing their way  
through the fair blue sky.  
No situation in life can be  
more agreeable than that  
of the Agriculturist.  
This I know from My own  
experience —

May 20: Passed the Island  
of St. Helena this Morning  
Was within one half Mile  
of the town had a Distinct  
view of it. Capt. would not  
Anchor. Did not land  
Took a Large Spinn Whale in afternoon



1834

I was very much mortified  
at the conduct of our Capt!  
as we had been promised a  
fine treat at this Island  
But no! We must pass by  
without setting our feet on  
an Island celebrated as  
the Death-Place of one of  
the Greatest Men the World  
ever saw. This place is visited  
by all the India-Men on their  
homeward bound passage  
Two Large Ships, and a  
Brig lay at anchor as we  
passed one of which anchored  
in the Morning of this Day  
There is but one Landing Place  
and that is at the North-  
West corner of the Island  
May God Bless the poor miserable  
being who would <sup>not</sup> fulfil his promise

1834

June 12 passed the Islands of Trinidad and Martin Vas saw them at a distance appeared to be formed of rock. Formerly was a Portuguese garrison at Martin Vas —

June 28 Arrived at St. Catharines anchorage, and lay until the 4. of July, when we weighed anchor and dropped down below the fort in order to be exempt from Port Charges. The Town of St. Catharines is situated on an Island of the same name - Lying in the Latitude of  $27^{\circ} 32'$  South and Long. of  $48^{\circ}$  or West It is at present under the Brazilian government. The crew of the *Somerset* were not permitted to visit the town as it was distant from the ship 4 Leagues. The Capt. and one

1834

Boats crew went to town to arrange some  
Matters relative to the Ship and I Chancet to  
be one of the crew. The town contains  
30,000 Inhabitants. Many of whom are  
black. The Portuguese Language is spoken  
here. The religion is Catholick. The  
buildings are mostly of the meaner sort  
and it is Altogether a Dismal looking  
Place. The crew were permitted to  
Land, and recreate themselves on  
the Main Land of South America  
And a fine place this for Men who  
had been nearly 12 Months at sea  
From the Description given by our Capt.  
before we arrived. one would suppose  
that you might walk to a tree and  
shake off Apples. Peaches. Pears. Figs Raisins  
and all the most delicious fruits, to  
another and black Beef Steaks. Roasted  
Turkeys. Plum Puddings. Pies. Tarts. Cur-  
tards. and all varieties of the richest food



1884

And after you had finished your first walk to another and make an incision with your knife and draw the most Delicious Wines and Liguors. After this if you was so Disposed you could by walking a few rods to an adjacent grove, Accomodate yourself with any articles of Clothing which fancy Might Dictate. Under the shadow of these trees could be seen the most beautiful Females. Dancing to the sound of the sweetest Music. Thus far for Our Captain. But to the fact. Instead of Beef-Steaks, and Plum-Puddings for Dinner we found little more than a few Oranges, and a sort of wild root reduced to powder called by the Inhabitants Ferani. This when boiling water has been

1834

Poured on it, constitutes their food  
Another thing Calculated to enhance  
our Misery. was that the Language  
of the People, was <sup>one</sup> which we could  
not understand. The reader can  
judge of our enjoyment at this place  
when he is told that 8 Men of the  
Starboard Watch could obtain no  
better Lodgings for a night than  
the soft side of a Pine floor  
in an unfinished Building  
But Men who are accustomed  
to get their sleep (after a hard  
Days fatigue) in wet Clothing. Can  
Endure this, and much more  
It would have been very pleasant to  
have heard some news, or gained  
some information respecting the  
United States of America, but  
we were unable to learn a solitary  
sentence of the affairs of the nation

1834

To which we blang. We are in  
utter ignorance of the concerns of  
that, or any other Country, as much  
as if we had been immured in a  
Dungeon for a twelve month. We are  
dead to the world. Before we  
arrive at home we shall forget  
the English Language entirely, and  
substitute one peculiar to Ourselves  
The senses of feeling, and of  
taste, have long since been lost.  
The former from feeling too much.  
the latter from not tasting enough  
or in other words, we have had  
so little to eat, that these organs  
are incapacitated for the office  
which Nature Designed they should  
perform, and we have endured  
so much hardship that we are  
insensible. I had almost  
said - Immortal —



1884

July 22<sup>d</sup>, 12 Months this Day since  
we sailed from Nantucket. One year of  
perfect misery has fled. It cannot be  
recalled, nor do I wish to, if it were  
in my Power, for time spent in a  
manner like the past, should sink  
to utter oblivion. Nothing is left  
but hope, and that is greatly  
diminished.

August 20<sup>th</sup> Passed the Island of  
St. Helena again on our return  
from St. Catharines. We are now  
bound to Tristan D. Acunha I  
suppose although it is uncertain  
where we shall "bring up"

Sept. 6. We discovered the sheathin  
on the larboard side of the  
ship to torn off, by the action  
of the waves against it.  
The Capt. does not think it  
prudent to longer cruise for Whales

1884

with the ship in its present state. We are now going to the north in hopes to <sup>find</sup> calm weather that we may repair her —  
Sept 8 We were favored with a calm, and repaired the old ship so as to be safe, in the opinion of our Noble Commander —

Sept. 24 Passed the Island of Tristan D. Cunha on our passage to our Whaling ground saw 13 ships one of which was "trying" Whales —

Sept. 26 Spoke the ship Cadmus of Sag Harbor. 4 Months out, no oil! This was a fortunate occurrence for us, as we had been destitute of tobacco for some time and were enabled to obtain some of her

1834 October 3.<sup>d</sup> spoke a french  
Whaling Ship from Havre. 14  
Months out with 1600 bbls —  
Name unknown

October 2<sup>d</sup> were fortunate enough to  
abridge the existence of a right  
Whale. it being 5 months and 3  
Days since we obtained our last  
victim. It would be useless to attempt  
the description of the various  
sensations that have revolved in  
our breasts during this period. Suffice  
it to say that Hope, and Despair  
Pleasure, and Pain. have triumphed  
Alternately. But Misery, and, Dis-  
content have preponderated. If we  
have enjoyed pleasure it has been  
transient. not unlike the fitful glare  
of the lightning, flash that for a moment  
illuminates the dreadful gloom of the midnight  
tempest, and then leaves it in tenfold darkness.



1834

November 22. Nothing uncommon  
has occurred within the past month.  
Time has rolled on with the  
same voracious progress as usual.  
We are in the possession of nothing  
to amuse ourselves, nothing to be seen  
or heard but Sea and Sky, War  
and then a Ship, the inmates  
of which are perhaps as unhappy as  
ourselves. This only enhances our  
Misery to behold others in a disagreeable  
situation without being able to afford  
them any relief. This contradicts  
the old adage "that Misery loves Company"  
but I think it is defensible by the  
laws of philanthropy that a benevolent  
Man sympathize with the afflicted  
if he possesses the means to mitigate  
his Condition. It is better to Commiserate  
human woe than to ridicule and  
aggravate their Misfortunes -

1834 December 22 Lat.  $36^{\circ}$   
South Lon.  $81^{\circ}$  East. 23 years  
of My life have passed away, and  
what have I accomplished? Truth;  
and conscience answer - nothing!  
Here on the boundless Ocean, in a  
Southern latitude almost as great  
as My Native northern. Engaged  
in the most detestable of all pursuits  
that ever occupy the attention of  
Man, why should I not refine?  
Two years this day I was in a Chris-  
tian land, surrounded with friends  
and relations that I loved, and by  
whom I was beloved. But here I have  
no friend but the Main Mast -  
Even this sometimes betrays symptoms  
of treachery while in the power of  
the tempest, but it never has forsaken  
Me in the hour of danger and  
I trust it will not

1834

December 25 Lat. 37° 38' South  
Lon. 07° West. Left this for  
St. Helena. This was hailed by  
"all hands" as a happy day —  
There is some prospect of our  
more more belated, and tread-  
ing upon the earth and partakings  
of the joys which thousands feel.

January 1 1835 Latitude 31° 15'  
South Longitude 11° 24' West  
I have begun another Year upon  
the South Atlantic Ocean, but  
I hope long before its termination  
that I may be disengaged from  
this most disgusting employment.  
According to human calculation  
I shall be liberated from this  
virtue by the first of next  
April. If the elements conspire  
against us we shall be longer  
retained.



835-

Jan. 10 1835 Anchored  
in the bay of St Helena  
The next day I went on shore  
and visited the tomb of Buonaparte  
It is situated in a little Valley  
at a distance of 4 Miles from  
Lamistown. There beneath 3  
Marble Slabs taken from the  
Kitchen hearth at Longwood  
reposes the bones of the famous  
Corsican who when alive was  
the terror and scourge of all  
Europe. It was his wish that his  
body might be deposited there  
if it could not be removed to  
France. About 100 feet from  
the tomb is a spring of the finest  
tasted water. It was <sup>the water</sup> of this  
spring that <sup>he drank</sup> exclusive of all other  
as he visited this place during the  
latter part of his stay on the

1833

Island almost every day. Over  
the tomb bends a large weeping  
willow which is very much decayed  
as are two or three others adjoining  
it. fit emblems of fallen grandeur.  
There is no inscription on or about  
the tomb to tell the traveller that  
there rests the mighty Lord -  
Nothing but a covering of 3 flat  
stones enclosed in an iron railing  
of about 10 feet square, and a few  
trees to mark the grave of the hero.  
It has been asked by thousands  
why he did not while living effect  
his escape from the Island?  
No person who has ever visited  
the Island would make the  
inquiry. Nature and art united  
have made it inaccessible by  
Vessels without permission from  
those on the Island.

1835

On the west side of Jamestown  
rises an Eminence of 600 feet. which  
is ascended by a ladder of 750  
Steps. On the Summit of this hill  
is a battery which Commands the  
harbour. The guns are heavy and  
numerous. They are enabled to joint  
these Guns with such exactness  
as to sink a wine Cask at the  
distance of 5000 Yards. Therefore  
it is needless to say how destruc-  
tive their fire must be to shipping.  
There is another battery at the entrance  
of the town which is so low that  
no ship can bring their guns to bear  
upon it besides there are Cannon  
on every point of the Island. On one  
very high point is planted an S & P  
which employs a 500 men 6 weeks  
to raise to its station. The Island  
is, as it might well be, considered  
impregnable



1835- Left St Helena 15 Jan  
Jan. 20 1835 Lat.  $03^{\circ} 21'$

South Lon.  $23^{\circ} 30'$  West

Two years this day since I left  
the nursery of my infancy. But  
two long years have been thrown away  
gone irrecoverably without the  
accomplishment of a single desired  
object. Cursed be the cruel fate  
that attends Mr. But I ought  
rather to bless the good being that  
has preserved me, and sustained  
me through the many dangers which  
I have passed

Jan. 27 Crossed the Equator  
in the Lon. of  $24^{\circ}$  West it being  
16 months and 24 days since we crossed  
it last

February 15 passed the tropic of  
Cancer, with a fine wind behind  
us. Longitude  $56^{\circ} 10'$  West

1836

February 27 arrived in the Gulf Stream where we experienced a severe storm. Nothing that I ever saw equalled it, indeed the oldest Mariners on board, confessed it unparalleled in their experience. Could some of our Landmen who refine at the terrors of a storm, on the solid ground, be placed here I think their fears would have overpowered reason herself. Imagine yourself in a little box on a vast, unknown expanse, tossed about, at the mercy of the drowning Element, whose waves like Mountains, threatening every moment to overwhelm you, and the wind blowing so strong, as to raise the Water and separate it, that it presented the appearance of a violent snow storm. In this Condition we lay 2 Days, looking upon one another.

1836

We at length were blown ashore  
on the Island of Nantucket it being  
just 20 Months from the time the  
Ship sailed Thence we were driven  
off the land. having nothing to satisfy  
the Cravings of a Stomach rendered  
hungry by 20 Months Starvation, but  
a little hard bread, and water -  
all hands left the ship without  
sustaining any injury Cargo saved  
Ship has since got off, and hauled  
alongside the wharf. I am now  
on shore fully Determined never  
to again wage war with those  
Sovereigns of the Earth. No! -  
never, as long as there remains  
an Alms house in my Country  
will I again forego all the pleasures  
of society and friends to Make  
Myself more miserable than the  
inmates of Hell itself. I had almost said Hell itself



1835-

Nantucket July 2- I am about to leave this cursed place, never more to return I hope, From the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March to this date I have not been able to earn My bread, This is discouraging after a 20 months Voyage to return with only five Dollars clear of expenses, I am determined to make an attempt at success in the Merchant service. I should have left Nantucket sooner if I could have collected money enough to carry me from the place. July 4- Arrived at Boston, spent a week there and left it for New Orleans on the 11<sup>th</sup> in the Brig Pandora of Boston Wages \$16. pr Month one months pay in advance



There they remain till a fair  
opportunity - the late school men better  
than - can do better for me  
It is not that I am not a good  
boy - my way not quite to come  
to her her shame from every eye  
I am a repentance to her world  
Loving his bosom is - to die

What a world of little things  
Says wisdom call it so;  
Call it so in their fashion  
Honesty is a virtue, &c.

There you are in vain your penning  
In the world my heart is  
There you are in vain your penning



My  
Dear Sir  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the matter of the  
and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.  
I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. M. Smith

















91  
22  
37  
28  
68

✓



